



Eric Newman <ericnumis106@gmail.com>

2011 ANA SPPN Information

3 messages

Mon, Aug 1, 2011 at 3:09 PM

Greetings Pioneer Gold Forum Members –

Attached you will find an Excel spreadsheet listing the various ingots that we will be discussing at this year's SPPN meeting at the ANA. The format of the spreadsheet includes the alleged maker's name, any denomination found on the bar, any listed weight, as well as notes and any pedigree information that we were able to locate. In addition to this spreadsheet, pictures of each ingot will follow in additional emails, so that you can study them at your leisure prior to our meeting at the ANA. The filenames reference the line number in column one.

I have done my best to try and determine whether there may be punch linkage between items on the list, and when I felt that there were obvious similarities, I listed them in the "notes" column.

The SPPN meeting will be held on Saturday, August 20th at 11 AM in room number 4 of the Rosemont Convention Center – we look forward to seeing many of you there. Hopefully, we will be able to come to a few conclusions as to the authenticity of some of these pieces, many of which have been questioned for some time now. It is our hope that working together, we may be able to use historical fact and sound numismatic reasoning in order to ascertain which of these pieces can be authenticated, which are forgeries, and which of them are (for the time being) a mystery.

If for some reason you are unable to attend, but would like to share any observations with the group, please email me, and I will try and see that any information that you send me is included. The ANA promises to be a busy show this year, so try and send out your observations as early as possible so that I can organize all of them properly prior to the meeting.

Thanks,

David J. McCarthy – Senior Numismatist

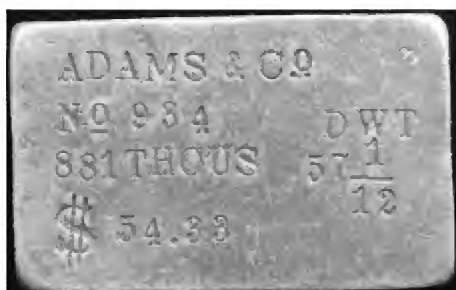
Kagin's

21 attachments

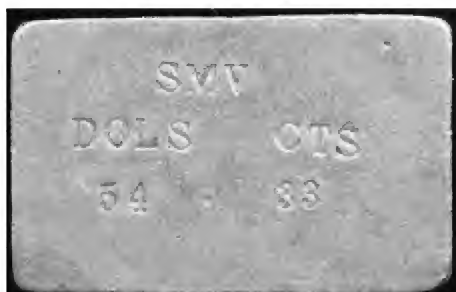
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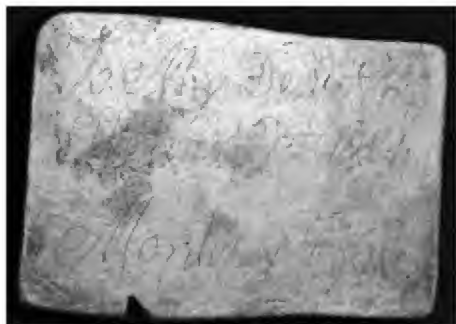


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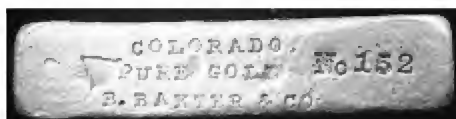
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SPPN08BLAKEREV.JPG

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131K **SPPN10CARLISLEOBV.JPG**
502K**SPPN10CARLISLEREV.JPG**
502K **PNR Forum.xlsx**
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Mon, Aug 1, 2011 at 3:35 PM

While we apologize for the shortness of time (do to the yeomen amount of work we—especially David—put into this project) we need each of you to please review these THIS WEEK, and send us your comments—as detailed as possible. It is vital we do all we can to establish the authenticity of these important items which have vexed our industry for over a half century. We will include your comments at the meeting. Thank you again for your participation. Don

From: David McCarthy**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2011 12:09 PM**To:** Andy Lustig; Beth Catcher; Bob Rhue; Dave Camire; David McCarthy; Don Kagin; Eric Goldstein; EricNumis@aol.com; Fred Holabird; John Dannreuther; John Kleeberg; John Kraljevich; JP Martin; Kenneth Bresset; Kevin Lipton; Lee Minshull; Mary Sauvain; Robert Leonard; Robin Sisler; Ron Karp; Stuart Levine; Tom Delorey; Tony Terranova**Cc:** Beth Catcher**Subject:** 2011 ANA SPPN Information

[Quoted text hidden]

John M Kleeberg <jmk291@nyu.edu>

To: Don Kagin <Don@kagins.com>

Cc: David McCarthy <David@kagins.com>, Andy Lustig <andylustig@earthlink.net>, Beth Catcher <Beth@kagins.com>, Bob Rhue <rrhue@qwestoffice.net>, Dave Camire <dcamire@ncscoin.com>, Eric Goldstein <egoldstein@cwf.org>,

Fri, Aug 19, 2011 at 8:15 AM

EricNumis@aol.com,



Dear David and Don,

Thank you very much for the photographs and other data that you e-mailed me. Clearly you have done a lot of work, and done it very well.

You asked for comments, and I do want to send you some.

All the bars in those photographs look bogus to me, with the exceptions of the Moffat bars and that wonderful Kellogg & Hewston bar - the latter has a highly publicized and very solid pedigree back to 1929. And the bogus bars all look to me like products of the work of John Jay Ford, Jr., and Paul Gerow Franklin, Sr. Yes, I have heard claims that Ford couldn't have known, but the idea that John Ford was "Mr. Clueless" strikes me as the oddest twist in Ford's reputation. Every single other story that is told about Ford is all about how shrewd the guy was - yet in this one field, the field he claimed as his specialty, he's supposed to have "pure heart, empty head"? No way! As for Franklin, I don't think he can be legitimately defended any longer at this point - especially now that we know about his conviction for counterfeiting in the 1940s.

With regard to punch linkages - I tried to look for those initially, but I didn't have any success. If you find some, bless you. At the moment I think Ford and Franklin were shrewd enough to avoid punch linking different ostensible manufacturers.

As for punches and where Franklin acquired them - the article about his arrest for dodging the draft in 1943 makes it clear that Franklin was a brilliant gunsmith, who could make guns that read like something out of James Bond. My view is that he could do any sort of metalsmithing he set his mind to. Where he fell down on the job were things like getting the math wrong, getting the fineness wrong, applying the Internal Revenue tax stamp on the wrong date, and adding information that really doesn't belong on a non-presentation bar, such as a date.

Your observation about the shapes of the letters and numerals is quite perceptive. For example, if we look at the legitimate bars from the Central America, in the numerals 0 and 8 the vertical strokes thicken in the middle, and the top strokes are thin. In the Ford-Franklin pieces the strokes are usually all the same size. The style of lettering looks like the keys of an old manual typewriter from the 1950s - of course that's not the immediate source (they're the wrong size to use for punches), but that might be the source for the design.

On the US Mint bars that have a false pedigree to the Brother Jonathan, I do want to add the point that the US Mint Annual Reports include the production of bars by the mints; and the US Branch Mint at San Francisco produced NO bars in 1865 according to the Annual Report.

You make interesting remarks about the Wiegand gold bar. I notice that the letter O in Oz has a die defect lump or hickey on the upper right side that lines up with the top stroke of the z in Oz. Now if you look at Part XXI of the Ford Sale of October 16, 2007, you will find that this defective O also appears in the following lots: 3547, 3548, 3549, and 3558. Now there are good Wiegand bars in silver, all of them with good solid old pedigrees, but none of those bars have that die defect lump. The bars with the die defect lump trace back to Paul Franklin. Moreover, lot 3549 has the odd "typewriter" style numerals that you noticed elsewhere. I think that all the die defect lump Wiegand bars are Ford-Franklin creations.

Thank you once again for this hard work, this thoughtful handling of these problematic pieces, and for assembling the photographs and other information,

With best wishes,

John M. Kleeberg

[Quoted text hidden]

PIONEER FORUM BAR LIST					
ANA 2011					
#	FIRM	DENOM	WEIGHT	NOTES	PEDIGREE
1	ADAMS & CO.	\$5	UNL		FRANKLIN/FORD/LILLY
2	ADAMS & CO.	\$54.33	57 1/12 DWT		FRANKLIN/FORD/LILLY
3	ARGENTI & CO	\$38.00	2-OZ 1-DWT	"ARGIENTI" STAMPED WITH FAKE USAOG AND HUMBERT CARTOUCHES	FORD/LILLY
4	BALDWIN & CO.	\$56.60	62 1/4 DWT	COMPLETELY DIFFERENT PUNCHES AND STYLE FROM ACTUAL BALDWINS	FRANKLIN/FORD/LILLY
5	BANK OF CALIFORNIA	\$102.00	UNL		FORD/BANK OF CA
6	B. BAXTER & CO.	\$70.37	3-OZ 8-DWT	PUNCHES APPEAR TO MATCH CROWN KING	FRANKLIN/FORD/LILLY
7	B. BAXTER & CO.	\$29.70	1-OZ 13-DWT	PUNCHES APPEAR TO MATCH CROWN KING/GRAY	FORD/KEEFER/FORD/LILLY
8	BLAKE & AGNELL	STRIP	UNL	"AGNELL" MODERN FONTS	FORD/NORWEB/LILLY
9	BLAKE & CO.	\$20	UNL	PUNCHES USED ON THE FALSE BLAKE AND AGNELL STRIP	FRANKLIN/FORD/LILLY
10	CARLISLE MINING CO.	\$272.20	UNL		FRANKLIN/FORD/KAGIN/FORD/LILLY
11	CROWN KING	\$115.30	6-OZ 7-DWT 10-GRS	PUNCHES APPEAR TO MATCH B. BAXTER	FORD/LILLY
12	EAGLE MINING CO.	\$93.42	4.52-OZ		BANK OF CA
13	EAGLE MINING CO.	\$118.23	7-OZ		BANK OF CA
14	EAGLE MINING CO.	\$206.50	10-OZ		?
15	EMPIRE CO.	\$23.48	1-OZ 15-DWT 10-GRS		FORD/BOYD/FORD/LILLY
16	FORT DOUGLAS/MORMON	WATCH FOB	UNL		FORD/LILLY
17	GOLDFIELD	\$10	258-GRS		FORD/KEEFER/FORD/LILLY
18	GOLDFIELD MINING CO.	\$20	1-OZ		FORD/KEEFER/FORD/LILLY
19	G.H. GRAY	\$25	1-OZ 4-DWT 4 1/2-GRS	1S AND 3S APPEAR TO MATCH BAXTER INGOTS	FORD/LILLY
20	HARQUAHALA	\$210	12-OZ 7-DWT		FORD/AMELINGMEIER/LILLY
21	HOARD INGOT	NONE	6.18-OZ	NUMBER PUNCHES APPEAR TO MATCH STAR AND KNIGHT BARS	FORD/BANK OF CA
22	HOARD INGOT	NONE	9.74-OZ	NUMBER PUNCHES APPEAR TO MATCH STAR AND KNIGHT BARS	FORD/BANK OF CA
23	A HUMBERT/USAOG	NONE	UNL		FORD/BANK OF CA
24	A HUMBERT/USAOG	\$50	UNL		FORD/BANK OF CA
25	A HUMBERT/USAOG	NONE	840-GRS		FORD/BANK OF CA
26	JAMES KING OF WILLIAM	\$20	UNL	FORMAT RESEMBLES DISCREDITED KOHLER CSTMPs	FRANKLIN/STACKS/FORD/BANK OF CA
27	JUSTH & HUNTER	\$80.40	4-OZ 6 1/2-DWT	BUNGLED IRS STAMP, PUNCHES AND FORMAT ARE DIFFERENT FROM KNOWN J&H BARS	FORD/LILLY
28	KELLOGG & HEWSTON	\$49.50	2.77-OZ	FORMAT & STYLE MATCH KELLOGG & HUMBERT BARS CLOSELY - DEEP PERIODS	EDLER '29/US MINT
29	KNIGHT & CO.	\$142.30	7.01-OZ	NUMBER PUNCHES APPEAR TO MATCH STAR AND HOARD BARS	?
30	KNIGHT & CO.	\$143.12	7.05-OZ	NUMBER PUNCHES APPEAR TO MATCH STAR AND HOARD BARS	?
31	KNIGHT & CO.	\$147.18	7.25-OZ	NUMBER PUNCHES APPEAR TO MATCH STAR AND HOARD BARS	FORD/NASCA 1980/BANK OF CA
32	KNIGHT & CO.	\$186.69	9.70-OZ	NUMBER PUNCHES APPEAR TO MATCH STAR AND HOARD BARS	FORD/LILLY
33	LEEDS MINING CO.	NONE	UNL		FORD/KEEFER/FORD/LILLY
34	MEYERS & CO.	\$18	1-OZ		FRANKLIN 1956/FORD
35	MOFFAT & CO.	\$9.43	10-DWT 6-GRS		US MINT
36	MOFFAT & CO.	\$14.25	15-DWT 6-GRS		MEHL 1932/RAYMOND/LILLY
37	MOFFAT & CO.	\$16	UNL		US MINT
38	H.M. NAGLEE	\$100	2640-GRS		FORD/LILLY
39	PARSONS & CO.	\$20	25 6/10 DWT	MADE WITH DIFFERENT PUNCHES FROM OTHER KNOWN EXAMPLE	MEDCALF/GODBERG/KAGIN/COLLECTOR
40	PARSONS & CO.	\$20	25 6/10 DWT	MADE WITH DIFFERENT PUNCHES FROM OTHER KNOWN EXAMPLE	FRANKLIN 1952/LILLY
41	SF MINT BAR	\$444.00	21.59-OZ		?
42	S.M. VALUE (ANONYMOUS)	\$20	UNL		FORD/BANK OF CA
43	STAR MINING CO.	NONE	4.55-OZ	NUMBER PUNCHES APPEAR TO MATCH KNIGHT AND HOARD BARS	?
44	STAR MINING CO.	NONE	4.53-OZ	NUMBER PUNCHES APPEAR TO MATCH KNIGHT AND HOARD BARS	FORD/BANK OF CA
45	UNION MINE	\$24.35	3-OZ	3 RESEMBLES THE 3 ON USAOG BAR	FORD/KEEFER/FORD/LILLY
46	USAOG	\$34.37	1-OZ 18-DWT 21-GRS	3 RESEMBLES THE 3 ON UNION BAR	FORD/BOYD/FORD/LILLY
47	CONRAD WIEGAND	\$23.68	1.46-OZ	COMPLETE/UNOBSTRUCTED IRS STAMP - APPROPRIATE PATINA	BANK OF CA

ADAMS & CO

NEW YORK

GALE & CO



ADAMS & CO

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W. H. & C. CO.
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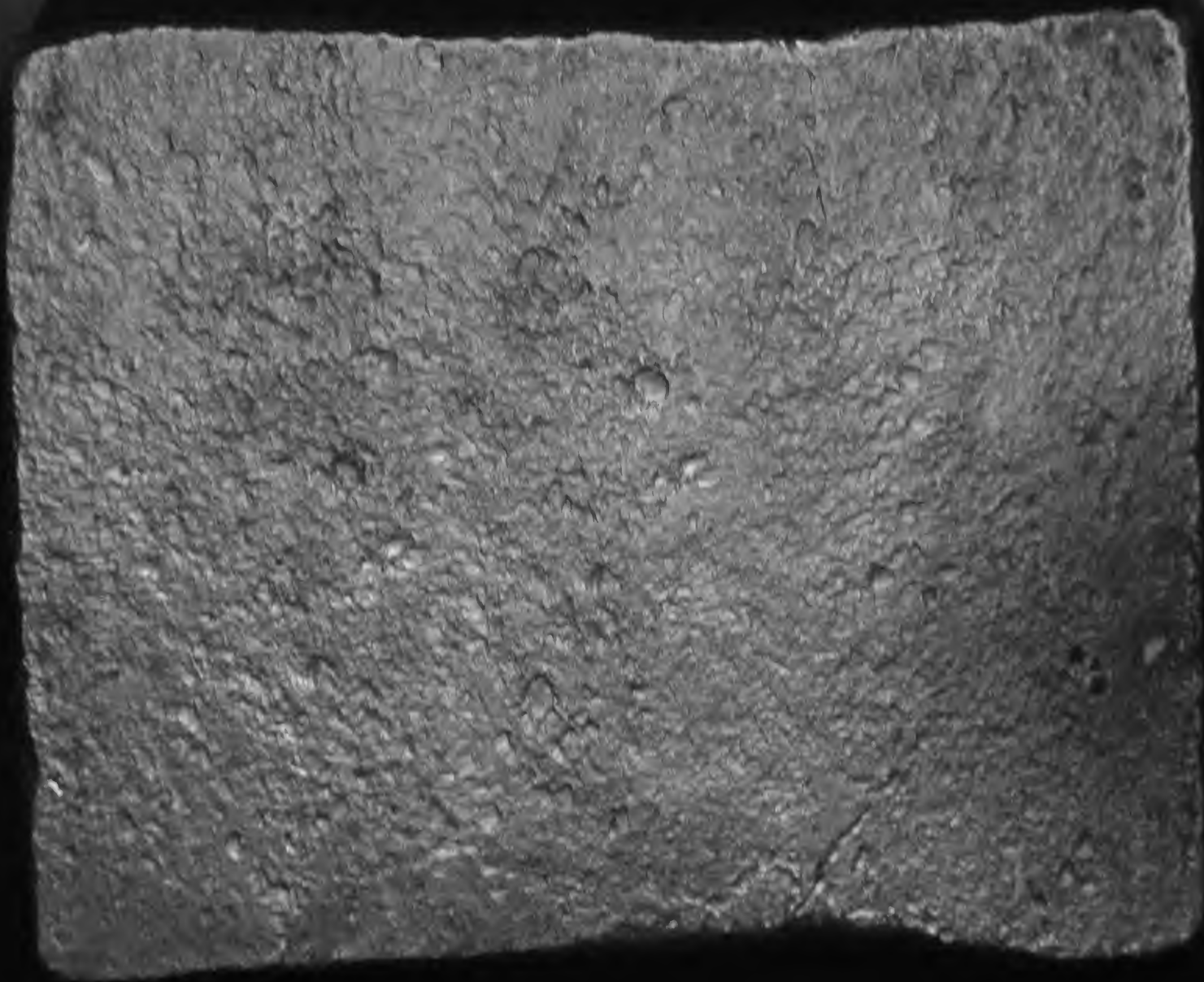
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COLORADO

PURE GOLD

NO 152

B. BAXTER & CO



AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION
OF
ECONOMIC
GEOLOGISTS

MARCH 31 1967

PL 2970

COLORADO

PURE GOLD

E. BAYTER & CO.

BLAKE
&
AGNELL
ASSAYERS
SAC. CAL.

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CALIFORNIA

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CARROLL MINING &
TREATY OF NEW MEXICO
MIN. VALVE #27223



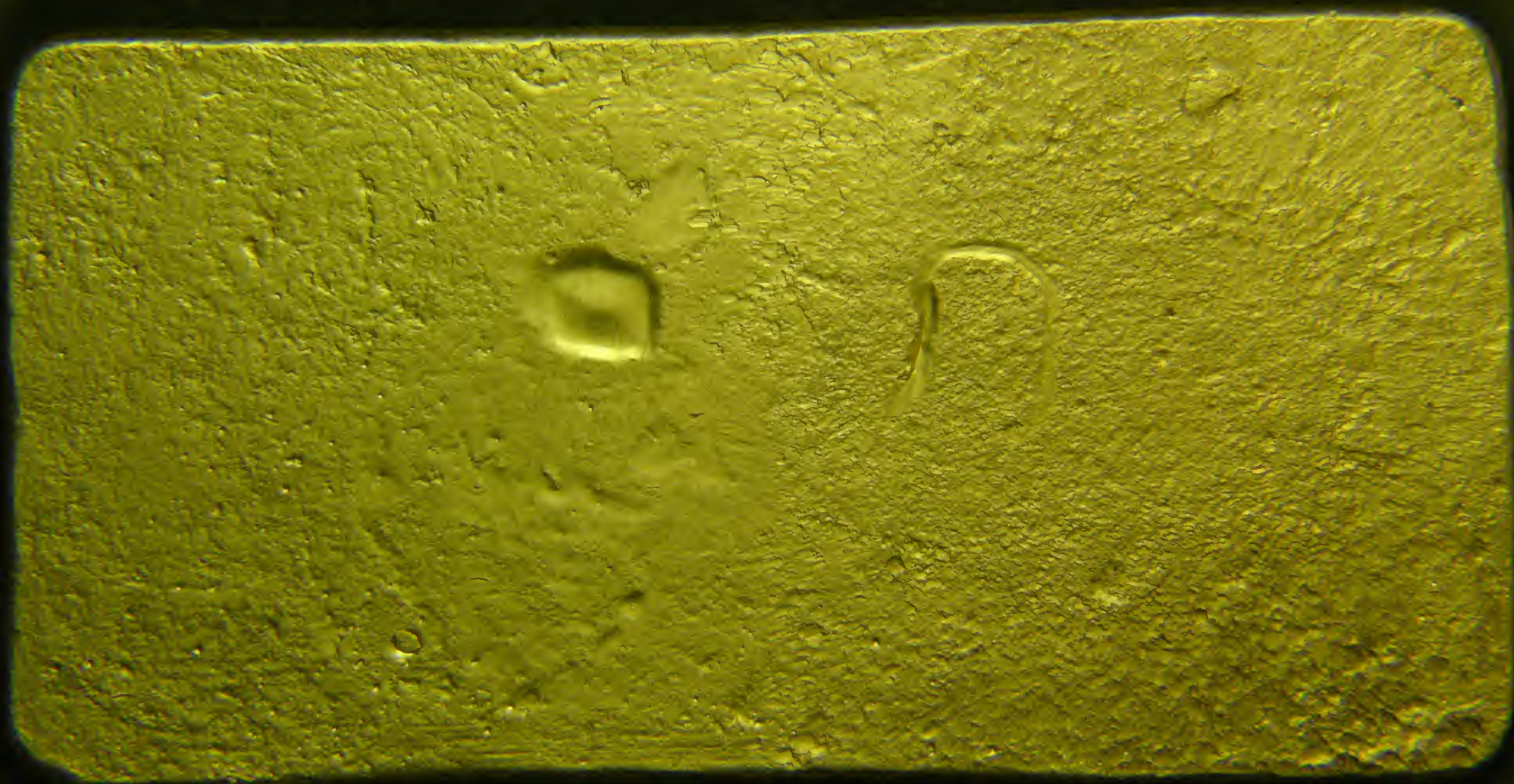
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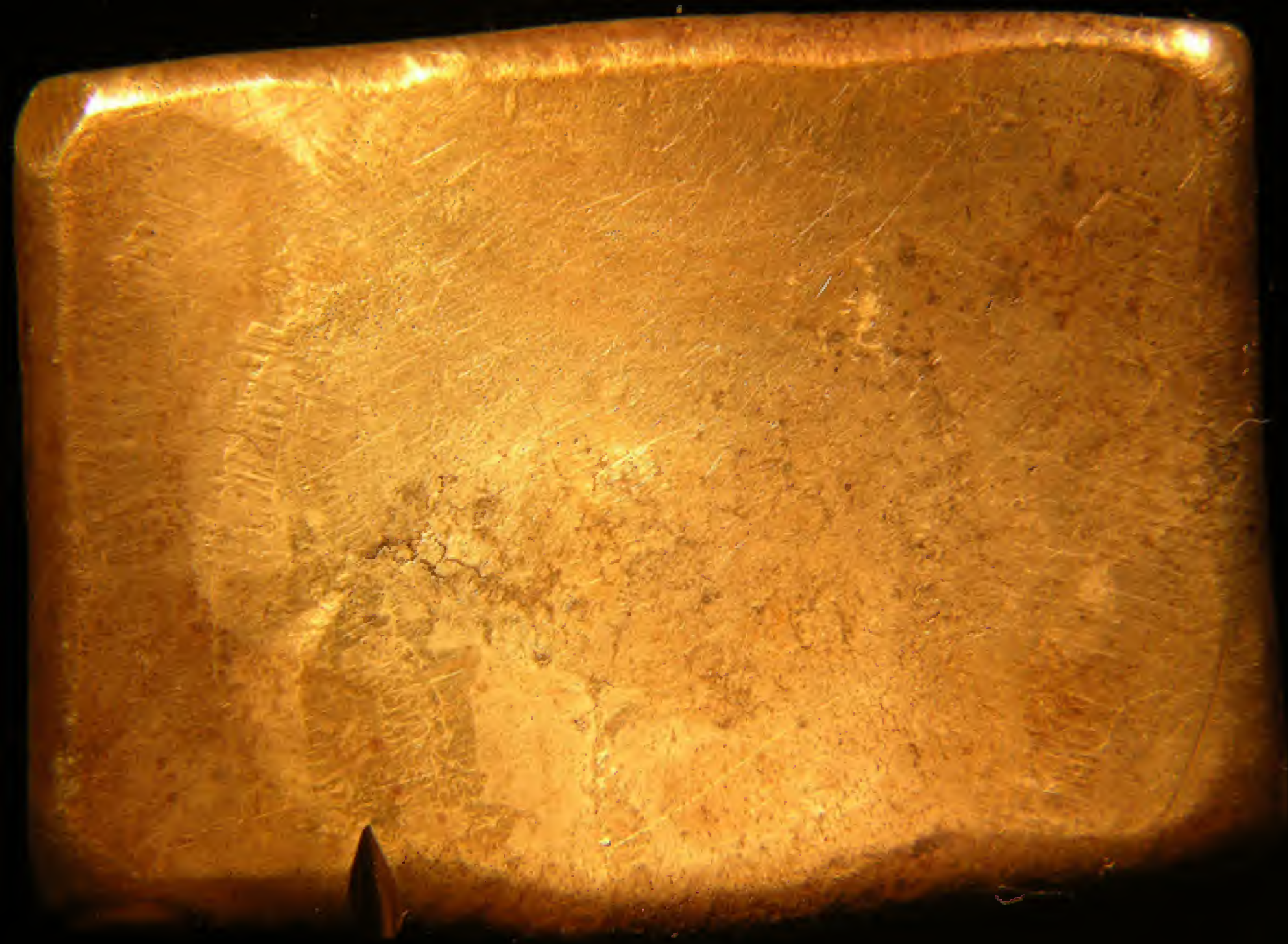


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SILVER 100

GOLD 354 F
SILVER 619



3 OZS. $\$$ 24.35
W.A.L.





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ØZS: 1.46

GOLD. 1 / 8

SILV. 132 FINE

C: WIEGAND

ASSAYER

GOLD. ₤ 23.45

SILV. ₤ 2.22

TOTAL ₤ 23.68

V.A.L. 23.68



1866

Gmail

label:ericnumis@aol.com

Compose

Inbox2

Starred

Snoozed

Sent

Drafts

ericnumis@aol.com

Eric

+

No recent chats
Start a new one


SPPN Meeting pics


Inbox xericnumis@aol.com x


to Andy, Beth, Bob, Dave, David, Don, Eric, EricNumis, Fred, John, John, Johr


Items 41 - 47

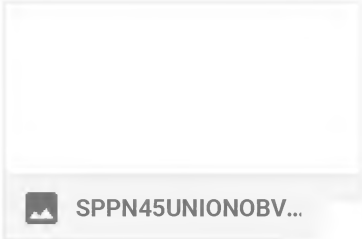
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 SPPN45UNIONOBV...



Enable desktop notifications for Gmail.

OKNo thanks



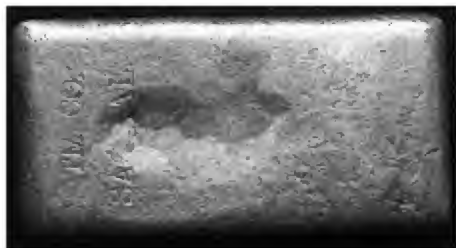
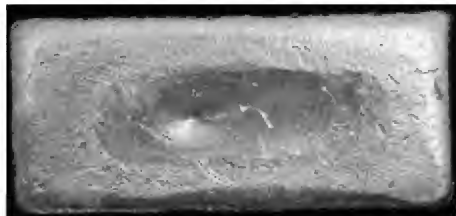
Eric Newman <ericnumis106@gmail.com>

SPPN Meeting Plcs

2 messages

Mon, Aug 1, 2011 at 3:13 PM

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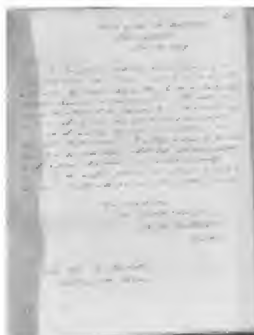
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Mon, Aug 1, 2011 at 3:13 PM

Items 36 - 40

10 attachments



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296K



SPPN38NAGLEEREV.JPG
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SPPN39PARSONSOBV.JPG
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SPPN39PARSONSREV.JPG

1/21/2019

Gmail - SPPN Meeting Plcs



283K



SPPN40PARSONSOBV.JPG

256K



SPPN40PARSONSREV.JPG

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MOFFAT & CO

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\$ 14.25

DWT. GRS.

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MORFAT & CO

203/4 CARAT

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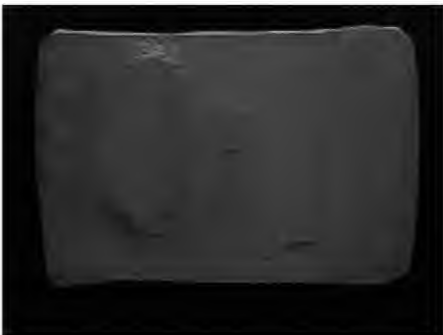
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SPPN24HUMBERTREV.JPG
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SPPN25HUMBERTOBV.JPG
589K

SPPN25HUMBERTREV.JPG
571K



Eric Newman <ericnumis106@gmail.com>

SPPN Meeting Pics

2 messages

Mon, Aug 1, 2011 at 3:12 PM

Items 21 - 25

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Mon, Aug 1, 2011 at 3:12 PM

Items 26 - 30

10 attachments



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168K



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SPPN29KNIGHTOBV.JPG
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SPPN30KNIGHTOBV.JPG
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SPPN30KNIGHTREV.JPG
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JAS. KING

OF

WILLIAM & CO

CALIFORNIA

— GOLD —

20 DOLLARS



J.B. & H. CO. NEW YORK

400 G. FINE GOLD



No. 1798

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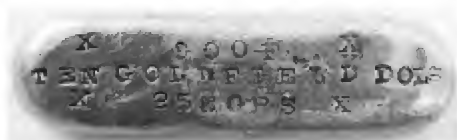
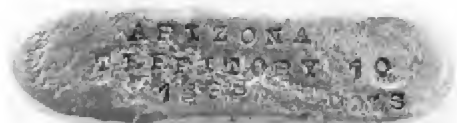
Eric Newman <ericnumis106@gmail.com>

SPPN Meeting Pictures

1 message

Mon, Aug 1, 2011 at 3:11 PM

Items 16 - 20

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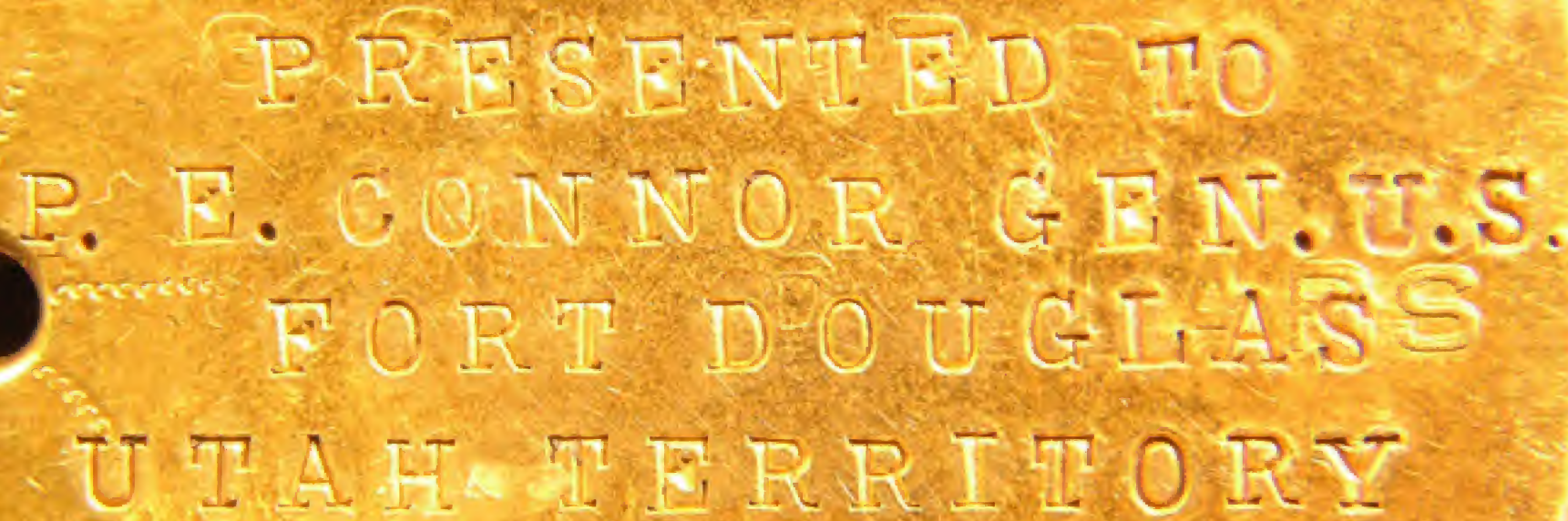
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SPPN20HARQUAHALAOBV.JPG
376K



SPPN20HARQUAHALAREV.JPG
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PRESENTED TO
P. E. CONNOR GEN. U.S.
FORT DOUGLASS
UTAH TERRITORY

HOLINESS TO THE LORD

DESERVE -

ASSAY OFFICE

LOVE BE CALLED

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ARIZONA
TERRITORY 10
1898 DOLS

GOLDFIELD MINING CO.

23 CARAT 1 OUNCE

VALUE

TWENTY DOLLARS

XX DOLLARS

NO. 2004 1898

TIER OF ART

G. H. GRAY

TERRITORIAL ASSAYER

999 $\frac{3}{4}$ FINE 1876

NO 53 B & G VALUE

OZS. DWT. GRS. DOL. CTS

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4 $\frac{1}{2}$

25.00

HARQUAHALA
ARIZONA
TERR.
S.F. MINT VAL. \$210.

CE.12

DWT.7

HUBBARD



Eric Newman <ericnumis106@gmail.com>

Star/Hoard/Knight

9 messages

Mon, Aug 8, 2011 at 2:20 PM

[REDACTED]

Forum Members –

On Thursday, I was able to examine examples of the Star Mining, Hoard and Knight Ingots in hand. In doing so, I was able to see some slight differences in the punches used to make them.

Thank you,

David J. McCarthy

Mon, Aug 8, 2011 at 2:41 PM

To: [REDACTED]

EricNumis@aol.com, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

David and I could really use your feedback THIS WEEK! The more we can get from you now, the less time we need to take in discussing these pieces at our meeting a week from Saturday. This is a huge undertaking and I know we haven't given you a lot of lead time to study these, but please make an attempt to share your analysis so we can be properly prepared to review them at our annual SPPN meeting. THANK YOU! Don

All of you were sent photographs of the 47 gold ingots; but if you need them sent again, please send David an email or call me

From: David McCarthy**Sent:** Monday, August 08, 2011 11:20 AM**To:** Andy Lustig; Beth Catcher; Bob Rhue; Dave Camire; David McCarthy; Don Kagin; Eric Goldstein; EricNumis@aol.com; Fred Holabird; John Dannreuther; John Kleeberg; John Kraljevich; JP Martin; Kenneth Bresset; Kevin Lipton; Lee Minshull; Mary Sauvain; Robert Leonard; Robin Sisler; Ron Karp; Stuart Levine; Tom Delorey; Tony

Terranova

Subject: Star/Hoard/Knight

[Quoted text hidden]

Mon, Aug 8, 2011 at 5:30 PM

To:

EricNumis@aol.com,

It appears as though the ingots were made using entirely distinct but very similar punches. That being said, I have suspected that some of the fonts used to make these may not have existed in the late 19th century. I have contacted a typographic historian for an opinion on these and hope to have information on the earliest known uses of some of these fonts prior to our meeting.

From:**Sent:** Monday, August 08, 2011 2:03 PM**To:** David McCarthy; Beth Catcher; Bob Rhue; Dave Camire; David McCarthy; Don Kagin; Eric Goldstein; EricNumis@aol.com; Fred Holabird; John Dannreuther; John Kleeberg; John Kraljevich; JP Martin; Kenneth Bresset; Kevin Lipton; Lee Minshull; Mary Sauvain; Robert Leonard; Robin Sisler; Ron Karp; Stuart Levine; Tom Delorey; Tony Terranova**Subject:** Re: Star/Hoard/Knight

Were the three groups of ingots made from three distinct sets of punches, or do they possibly share some common punches?

Also, I'm wondering if similar but not identical punches can somehow be tied to each other. And along those lines, how would a counterfeiter make a punch? Is there a device that a counterfeiter might use to make multiple punches?

-----Original Message-----

From: David McCarthy

Sent: Aug 8, 2011 2:20 PM

To: Andy Lustig , Beth Catcher , Bob Rhue , Dave Camire , David McCarthy , Don Kagin , Eric Goldstein , EricNumis@aol.com, Fred Holabird , John Dannreuther , John Kleeberg , John Kraljevich , JP Martin , Kenneth Bresset , Kevin Lipton , Lee Minshull , Mary Sauvain , Robert Leonard , Robin Sisler , Ron Karp , Stuart Levine , Tom Delorey , Tony Terranova**Subject:** Star/Hoard/Knight

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Thank you,

David J. McCarthy

Andy Lustig

PO Box 806

Nyack NY 10960

USA

Cell Phone: (845) 321-0249

Mon Aug 8 2011 at 5:31 PM

To:

EricNumis@aol.com,

FWIW, I have always assumed that had I decided c. 1950 to become the master counterfeiter of Western era bars, I would have begun by scouring the antique shops of America for vintage punch sets that I could use.

I have no idea if this was done in relation to any suspect bars. It's just how I would have done it.

TD

In a message dated 8/8/2011 4:03:33 P.M. Central Daylight Time, [REDACTED] writes:

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David J. McCarthy

Andy Lustig
PO Box 806
Nyack NY 10960
USA

Cell Phone: (845) 321-0249

Mon, Aug 8, 2011 at 5:34 PM

To:

EricNumis@aol.com,

Tom –

That would be the intelligent way to do things. I suspect some of the fakes were probably not so intelligently produced.

David

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 08, 2011 2:31 PM
To: [REDACTED]

EricNumis@aol.com:

Subject: Re: Star/Hoard/Knight

[Quoted text hidden]

Mon, Aug 8, 2011 at 5:35 PM

To:

Cc:

EricNumis@aol.com,

Tom --

My father is a retired metalworker and we always had old punch sets laying around -- I have no doubt they were 50-100 years old but in the shop they were just "used." These things never go bad, so they can stay in use a long time.

His working anvil was made in Sweden in the 1830s. It was just a used anvil, despite its age.

Hundred year old punch sets are essentially yard sale fodder. You make a fine point.

JK

[Quoted text hidden]

~~~~~  
John Kraljevich Americana  
PO Box 237188  
New York, NY 10023-7188  
www.jkamericana.com

Mon, Aug 8, 2011 at 9:17 PM

To:

EricNumis@aol.com

Tom,

In John Ford's (and Paul Franklin's) circa 1957 flyer, Ford specifically stated that he "collected...the letter and numeral punches used for making bars and ingots..." See Bowers, *American Coin Treasures and Hoards*, p. 266 (lower right corner).

Bob Leonard

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Andy Lustig  
PO Box 806  
Nyack NY 10960  
USA

Cell Phone: (845) 321-0249

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Mon, Aug 8, 2011 at 9:49 PM

To:

 EricNumis@aol.com.  


I am sure that he would have bought any genuine, original, "game-used" letter set with provenance. I wonder if any exist.

I am just hypothesizing that a master counterfeiter could have taken any vintage set and made it "game-used."

TD

[Quoted text hidden]

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Tue, Aug 9, 2011 at 11:22 AM

To:

Cc:

 EricNumis@aol.com.  


Hi Bob and everybody- Ford specifically denied this to me in person, and I know otherwise, since he bought some from my employee about 1983. However, we all must be aware of the problem of jumping to conclusions. This will be a particularly fun SPPN meeting, with a really rousing discussion at the forum. There is new info on possible forgers identities, but we have not yet decided to go public..... at least one is still alive (and I believe active.) You'll enjoy Karl's discussion of his book on Ford and Franklin. It is excellent.

I will be sharing new info from my research with Florida Institute of Technology and work with John Watling at the University of NW Australia that has taken place over the past 7 years, including new info within the past month.

BTW- another fake US Mint SF bar surfaced, this one in gold (typical 5 oz size). We spotted 2 silver fakes a couple of months ago, and published in CW. They do not have the correct punches.

I look forward to seeing all and your input.

Thanks Fred Holabird

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 08, 2011 6:18 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Re: Star/Hoard/Knight

[Quoted text hidden]

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No virus found in this message.  
Checked by AVG - [www.avg.com](http://www.avg.com)  
Version: 10.0.1391 / Virus Database: 1520/3821 - Release Date: 08/08/11